

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 174

Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine ways to provide low-income families with access to high-quality child care. Nebraska consistently ranks among the states with the highest number of all available parents in the workforce, particularly when it comes to parents of children under five years of age, yet the state does not perform as well when it comes to the number of parents who are eligible for child care subsidies. An adequate amount of child care subsidies is extremely important in helping parents stay in the workforce and off of full welfare assistance. It also helps children by increasing access to quality child care which helps set the foundation for future success in school and later in life.

This interim study shall attempt to produce a workable proposal to increase access to high-quality child care. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of eligibility requirements to qualify for child care subsidies and an analysis of whether the Department of Health and Human Services should allow low-income families a choice between receiving child care pursuant to a contracted slot or a voucher.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.